FOR MYSORE STATE

Secy. 11-15—75,000—3-11-53.

Confdl

Pr (1955) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

Closed
R H

G.O. No. 2178

Dated 2-6-55

[Despatch Abstract.]

Taticorin Port Trust — Dr. TCL
Advance — Allegations regarding
claims of false TA — orders
passed.

M. N. MASCARENHAS.
TRUSTEE
TUTICORIN. PORT TRUST

TUTICORIN.

Date, 6th Novr 1954

V3

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

The Chairman,
Port Trust,
TUTICORIN.

Sir,

I am realiably given to understand that the Secretary Port Trust has misappropriated some government money and has maintained false account, by claiming T.A. for his visits to Mandapam and Cochin.

I am given a specific instance to prove the misappropriation and I request you to kindly make a confidential enquiry and submit your report to the Government for necessary action, if the instance is proved.

I also request you to please seize the journal, Ledger and the relative vouchers and maintained for the Port and Port Trust funds and also the attendance books from 1-1-1954.

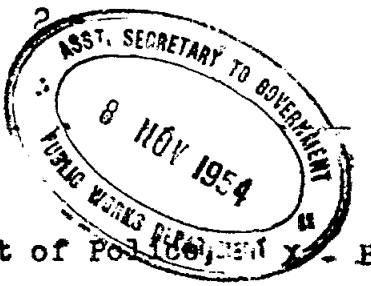
I request you also to seize the above immediately as I feel any delay that may be caused, might give some convenience to the Secretary, Port Trust, for altering or amending any of the said records.

Yours faithfully,

M N Mascarenhas

(P.T.O)

86457



COPY TO:-

The Superintendent of Police, [illegible] X - Branch
MADRAS.

The Secretary,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
MADRAS.

3

P.W.D(L-3)

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Memo No. 86457 4/54-1 dt 24/12.11.54

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust - Allegations against Sri M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin.

Ref: From Sri.M.N.Mascarenhas, Trustee, Tuticorin Port Trust dated 6-11-54.

The attention of the Chairman, Tuticorin Port Trust is invited to the letter cited and he is requested to report to the Government, ~~in due course~~, the action taken by him in the matter.

12.11.54

12/11/54

12/11/54

Note=

The draft above is submitted with reference to the ordersof D.S. at p. 2 c.f.

12-11-54

12/11/54

12/11/54

To: The C.T.P.T.

12/11.

M. N. MASCARENHAS.
TRUSTEE
TUTICORIN. PORT TRUST

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
12 NOV 1954
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

TUTICORIN. 5

Date, 9th Novr, 1954

The Chairman,
Port Trust,
TUTICORIN.

Sir

In continuation of my letter dated, 6-11-'54 and the ~~personal~~ interview I had with you this morning, I write to inform you that the specific instance which I am prepared to prove lies between 19th to 22nd Octr, 54, during which period the Secretary, Port Trust left for Cochin and returned to Tuticorin.

Yours faithfully,

M. N. Mascarenhas

COPY TO:-

The Secretary,
Public Works(Marine)Dept.,
M A D R A S.

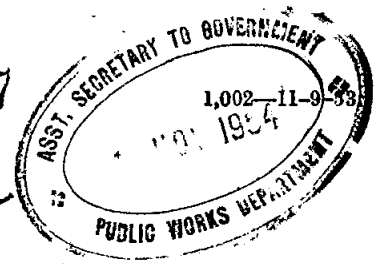
The Supdt.of Police,
X - Branch.,
M A D R A S.

WP(Dg)
Filed
13.11.54

FORM II. 89737

SECRET

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



From the X Branch, Criminal Investigation Department.

No. 2/PORTS/54. *Dated* 12th November 1954.

The
Secretary to
Government,
Public Works
Department,
Fort St.
George.

Sub:-Public Servants - Secrefary, Tuticorin Port Trust, Tuticorin, Tirunelveli District - Allegations of corruption - petition forwarded.

I enclose letters dated 6th and 9th November 1954 from Sri M.N.Mascrenhas, Trustee, Tuticorin Port Trust, Tuticorin, containing allegations of misappropriation of Government money and claiming of false T.A. by the Secretary, Tuticorin Port Trust, Tuticorin, for favour of necessary action with reference to Government Office Memorandum No.224/48-1, Public (Services) Department, dated 26.1.1948.

(R.N.Manickam).
Superintendent of Police.

P.W.D (K3)

The receipt of the reply from the C.T.T may be awaited till 10-12-54

23.11.54

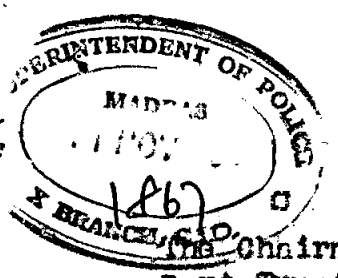
23.11.54

M. N. MASCARENHAS.
TRUSTEE
TUTICORIN. PORT TRUST

TUTICORIN. 9

No. 2/PORT S/54. Dated 6th Novr, 1954

12-11-54.



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

Hon'ble Minister

The Chairman,
Port Trust,
TUTICORIN.

Sir,

I am reliably given to understand that the Secretary Port Trust has misappropriated some government money and has maintained false account, by claiming T.A. for his visits to Mandapam and Cochin.

I am given a specific instance to prove the misappropriation and I request you to kindly make a confidential enquiry and submit your report to the Government for necessary action, if the instance is proved.

I also request you to please seize the journal, Ledger and the relative vouchers and maintained for the Port and Port Trust funds and also the attendance books from 1-1-1954.

I request you also to seize the above immediately as I feel any delay that may be caused, might give some convenience to the Secretary, Port Trust, for altering or amending any of the said records.

Yours faithfully,

M N Mascarenhas

(P.T.O)

COPY TO:-

The Superintendent of Police, X - Branch ,

MADRAS .

The Secretary,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
MADRAS .

M. N. MASCARENHAS.
TRUSTEE
TUTICORIN. PORT TRUST

TUTICORIN.

Date, 9th Novr, 1954

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE
MADRAS
X BRANCH, C.I.D.

The Chairman,
Port Trust,
TUTICORIN.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter dated, 6-11-'54 and the ~~personal~~ interview I had with you this morning, I write to inform you that the specific instance which I am prepared to prove lies between 19th to 22nd Octr, 54, during which period the Secretary, Port Trust left for Cochin and returned to Tuticorin.

Yours faithfully,
M. Mascarenhas

COPY TO:-

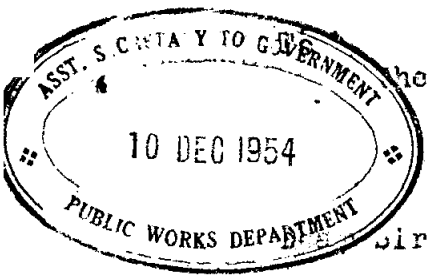
The Secretary,
Public Works(Marine)Dept.,
MADRAS.

The Supdt.of Police,
X - Branch.,
MADRAS.

Tuticorin,
8th December 1954

95301

U R G E N T.



The Chairman,
Tuticorin Port Trust,
Tuticorin.

Sir,

Ref:- Our personal representation
of date re: pain[illegible] the con-
duct of the Secretary,
Port Trust.

We request you to kindly arrange to convene an urgent meeting of the port trust Board to discuss matters relating to the conduct of the present Port Trust Secretary. Any delay in convening the meeting will mean the position from bad to worse.

Yours faithfully,

O. Thughum
Muncaruchan
Dr. Dodin

Trustees, Tuticorin Port Trust.

Copy to the Secretary, Public Works Department,
Government Exxf of Madras, Madras.

8:30 PM 5/L 95567 15

INVEST WISELY Buy NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

10/12/54

Class Prefix O Code OG No. 64 C

Recd from 2 GG

By 2

Sent at _____ H _____ M.

To _____

By O

Office Stamp.

Handed in at (Office of Origin)	Date	Hour	Minutes	Service Instructions.	Words
Tuticorin					31

Recd here at 17 H. 55 M.

TO Secy = To Govt- Public Works Dept Mds V

= Local Post officer Through Boatowners concerning Labour To give false statement against Union officials Under Threat of dismissal and cancellation of Entry pass = Boatmens Union

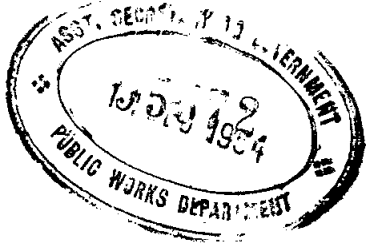
Ravi Printers, Madras-1, Prop. Books dated 10-9-54, 1 Lakh Books

M. N. MASCARENHAS.
TRUSTEE
TUTICORIN. PORT TRUST

TUTICORIN.

Date, 9th Nov., 1926

Confidential



The Chairman,
Port Trust,
TUTICORIN.

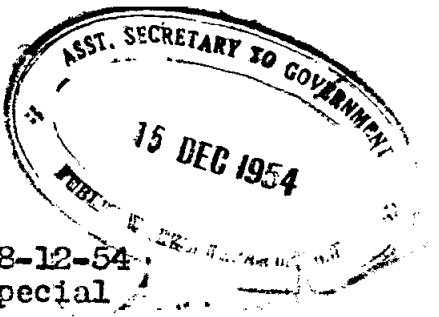
Sir,

In continuation of my letter dated 9-11-26, which was a reply to your letter of same date. I write to give you some more particulars regarding the instances cited in my letter dated 6-11-26.

Mr. T. L. Devani, the Secretary, Port Trust, left for Cochin for inspection of the tug which was under construction at Cochin on 17-10-26, and returned to Tuticorin on 22-10-26. He did not take any coon with him to Cochin. But after his return from Cochin, he drew a bill for T.A. on his name, another bill on a coon's name and got it signed by a coon. Both the amounts were received by the Secretary, Port Trust

I have got sufficient record to prove that the coon who

96744



The Chairman,
Tuticorin Port Trust,
TUTICORIN.

Dear Sir,

Ref: Our requisition dated 8-12-54 to convene an urgent special meeting of the Board.

As we now fear that there is every possibility for the Port Officer to tamper the T.A.Bills submitted for his Cochin trip from 19-10-54 to 22-10-54, we request you to get in possession of the Bills immediately and keep them under your custody.

Regarding calling for a special meeting, we refer you to Section 18 (1) B of the Tuticorin Port Trust Act,1924. The requisition for convening a Special Meeting of the Board was sent to you on the 8th instant, but we have not yet been informed ~~with~~ about the action you have taken on the same. Again, we request you to call for the Special Meeting immediately or in the course of this week positively.

Yours faithfully,

Trustees.

Copy to:
The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department, Government of Madras,
MADRAS.

TUTICORIN,
13-12-54.

P.Mg(L3)

Please see pp 13-19 ante.
The Chairman's reply to HC memo at p. 3 ante may be awaited till 25-12-84

15-12-84

15.12.84

Where is the other file? Whereabouts of the telegram?

Please see HC memo below

21/12

21

P.W.D(L-3)

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Memo No. 86457/54-2 dt 21.12.54

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust - Allegations against Sri M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin.

Ref: Govt. Memo No. 86457 L/54-1 dated 12-11-54.

--:--

The attention of the Chairman, Tuticorin Port Trust is invited to the Memorandum cited and to the subsequent letters from Sri.M.N. Mascarenhas and others dated 9-11-54, 8-12-54, 9-12-54 and 13-12-54 and he is requested to report very urgently the action taken by him in the matter. A copy of telegram dated 10-12-54 from Boatmens Union is forwarded herewith for necessary action.

21-12-54

21/12/54

21/12/54

To:

The C.T.P.T.

FORM II. 98509

1,002—11-9-53.

SECRET

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From the Branch, Criminal Investigation Department.

No. 2/Ports/54. *Dated* 20th December 1954.

To

The Secretary to Government,

Public Works Department, Fort St. George.

Sub:-Public Servants - Secretary, Tuticorin Port Trust, Tuticorin, Tirunelveli District - Allegations of corruption - further petition - forwarded.

I enclose a further petition dated 9.12.54 from Sri M.N.Mascarenhas, Trustee, Tuticorin Port Trust, Tuticorin, containing allegations against the Secretary, Tuticorin Port Trust, Tuticorin, for favour of necessary action in continuation of this Branch Note No.2/Ports/54, dated 12.11.54

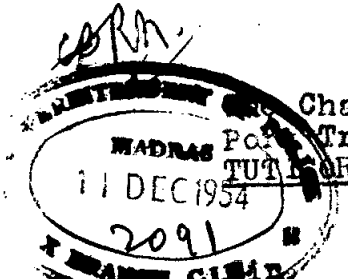
(R.N.Manickam).
Superintendent of Police.

. N. MASCARENHAS.
TRUSTEE
TUTICORIN. PORT TRUST

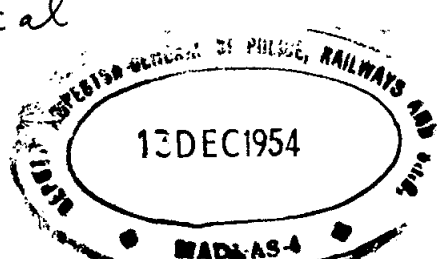
TUTICORIN.

Date, 9th Decr., 195

Confidential



Chairmam,
Port Trust,
TUTICORIN.



In continuation of my letter dated 9-11-54, which was a reply to your letter of same date, I write to give you some more particulars regarding the instance cited in my letter dated 6-11-54.

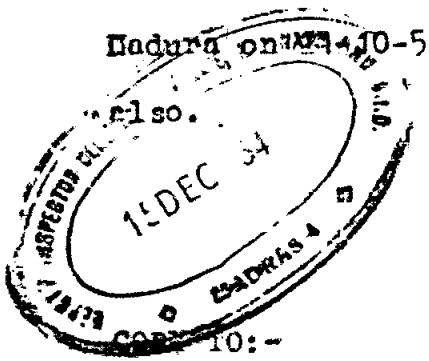
Sri.M.L.Advani, the Secretary, Port Trust, left for Cochin for inspection of the tug which was under constructi at cochin on 19-10-54, and returned to Tuticorin on 22-10-5 He did not take any peon with him to Cochin. But after hi return from cochin, he drew a bill for T.A. on his name, and another bill on a peon's name and got it signed by a peon. Both the amounts were pocketed by the Secretary, Port Trust

I have got sufficient record to prove that the peon

signed the bill was at Tuticorin, during the date claimed in the bill.

(M.L. Advani)

It also appears that he was in the Rotary Club at Madura on 4-10-54, and he has claimed batta for this day also.



Yours faithfully,

Copy to:-

The Secretary,
The Public Works (Marine) Dept.,
M A D R A S .

The District Supt.of Police,
X-Branch,
M A D R A S .

B.I. Cable INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT No. 1124

सत्यमेवजयते

Recd. at ____ H. ____ M. | Sent at ____ H. | Office Stamp 22 DEC 54 C.I.O.
From ____ | To ____
By 14.20 | By ____

986470 OF Tuticorin Beach 22 [illegible]
a... Secretary Public Works (...
On request dated eighth Dece...
To confirm Tuticorin Port Trust ...
inviting Audit copy sent to ...
Secretary Contract dated ...
Chairman ... Secretary ... Fa...
false evidences ... Records to nullify ... charge ...
Party ... in ...

Dutt Printing Works, Cal.—1303/5166/D44—29-7-50—30000 Bks.

B.I. Cable INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT No.

"सत्यमेवजयते"

1124

22 DEC 56

Recd. at ____ H. ____ M.
From ____
By ____

Sent at ____ H. ____ M.
To ____
By ____

Officer and instruct chairman to convene next special meeting of Shanmugha Mudaliar Dhanisami Mirasdarship Trustees.

Dutt Printing Works, Cal.—1303/5166/B44—29-7-50—30000 Bks.

99161
24 DEC 1954
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Tuticorin,
Dated: 22nd December '54.

To

The Secretary,
Public Works Department (~~Marine~~), Govt. of Madras.
Madras.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust Board - Reqn to convene Special Meeting.
Ref: Our letters dated 8th and 13th December - copies sent to you.

We have to bring to your kind notice that we met the Chairman of the Tuticorin Port Trust on 8-12-54 and enlightened him about the corruptive nature of the Port Officer by quoting several suspected transactions. As desired by him we gave a requisition to call for a special meeting of the Board to discuss all matters relating to his conduct. Specific instance of his misappropriateion in T.A.Bill was furnished to him on 9-12-54.

On the 14th December we approached the Chairman and he promised to enquire into the T.A.Bill affair and place his report before the Special Meeting to be convened on 21-12-54. To the requests made in person, on the 20th and 21st, he said that he has fixed 24th December for the Meeting and he made us understand this is a definite arrangement and no more postponement.

In spite of all these, we are surprised to receive a letter from the Chairman to-day, still delaying the affair. Copy of the letter is sent herewith for your kind perusal. We agree to the views of the Chairman that the Port Officer and Secretary Port Trust does not come under the disciplinary control of the Board. But this will not limit the powers of the Board to request the Government for an immediate transfer of a corruptive officer and enquire into his conduct. We cannot expect the Office staff to co-operate with the investigating officer keeping Sri. M.L. Advani under the helm of affairs. For example, for the T.A. Bill in question the peon Mr.Paul has already been taught to state in his deposition that this is the usual practice followed by the previous Port Officers also. When Sri. M.L. Advani is there as his boss, we can expect only such statements. That is why we have requested in our telegram of date, copy of which is sent herewith to transfer the Port Officer immediately and proceed with further enquiry and investigation.

The motive of the special meeting of the Board is

Continued.

33

to consider and constitute a sub-committee to inspect account books stores etc. and give its detailed report to the Govt. so that it will be very helpful to the investigating officer, who can straight-away proceed with concrete cases on hand.

Under the circumstances, we request you to kindly instruct the Chairman by telegram to convene the Special meeting and proceed with the matter without any further delay. We trust this matter will receive your immediate attention as works costing few lakhs of rupees are in progress under the supervision of this dishonest corruptive officer.

Yours faithfully,

Trustees, Port Trust,
Tuticorin.

35

1 Secretary,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
Madras.

2. Public Works Minister,
Madras Government,
Madras.

Our request dated eigth December to convene Tuticorin Port Trust Special Meeting and copy sent to you to consider Secretary's conduct delayed by Chairman Stop Secretary preparing false evidences and may even tamper records to nullify our charges Stop Pray immediate transfer or Port Officer and instruct Chairman to convene urgent special meeting

Shanmughasundaram
Muraisami
Macgarenhas
Trustees.

Not to be telegraphed.
No. 6, Beach Road, Tuticorin.
23.12.1954

(True copy)
S. Shanmugham

37

Port Office,
Tuticorin, 22-12-1954.

To

Sri. P. Shanmugasundaram Pillai,
Sri. M.N. Mascarenhas,
Sri. M. Doraisamy, Trustees, Tuticorin Port.

Gentlemen,

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust Board - Convening of Special meeting - requisition for.

Ref: Your letters dated 8-12-54 and 13-12-54.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letters cited and state that the subject of T.A. bills is receiving my personal attention and necessary investigation is in progress. In this connection I invite your co-operative and request you to please furnish me with full details of any specific information regarding irregularities that you may have in your possession so as to enable me to enquire into the matter.

With regard to convening of special meeting under Section 18(1)b of the Tuticorin Port Trust Act 1924 I request you to please furnish me with details of particulars of items that you wish to discuss at the proposed meeting so as to enbale me to take further action in the matter. In this connection I would mention that the Port Officer and Secretary Port Trust does not come under the disciplinary control of the Board and in the interests of good administration and discipline it would be desirable that if there are any specific complaints relating to the conduct of the officer concerned, full details thereof may be furnished to me for examination and if necessary communication to the appropriate authority with my remarks for taking suitable action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,
Sd.
22-12-54.
CHAIRMAN

(True Copy)

Confidential.

1,002—3-4-54.

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
8 DEC 1954
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Received ..... 195 .

Registered ..... 195 .

Subject.

Tuticorin Port Trust - Allegations against Sri M.L.Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin.

Ref: Government Memorandum No.86457-L/54-1 dated 12-11-54
Government Memorandum No.86457-L/54-2 dated 21-11-54.

ENCLOSURES
No.
Spare copies

No. C 11/54(C) *Tuticorin, dated* 26TH December, 1954.

From (Name) Sri K. P. Sekhara Menon, B.A.,

Chairman, Port Trust,

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to Government letters cited, I herewith enclose copies of my letters dated 9-11-54, 22-12-54 and 26-12-54 on the subject of allegations against the Port Officer, Tuticorin and state that necessary preliminary enquiry is in progress. Further particulars have been called for from the persons concerned and on receipt of same the enquiry will be completed and necessary report submitted to Government.

In regard to telegram dated 10-12-54 from the Boatmen's Union, Tuticorin a reference is solicited to correspondence resting with my confidential letter No. 15 C 54 dated 14-12-54 on the subject of illegal strike by the Boatmen's Union, Tuticorin on 6-12-54. It will be seen from the enclosures attached thereto that the Port Officer

in his letters

40

in his letters Nos.31(b)1/2865, 2866, 2867, 2868 & 2869 dated 8-10-51 addressed to the tindals of boats concerned through the Boat owners to obtain the explanations of their crews why action should not be taken against them for obstructing the service of their harbour crafts etc. copies of tindals' explanation* have also been submitted to Government.

*in this connection

The telegram dated 10-10-54 from the Boatmen's Union is mischeivous and has obviously been sent to create confusion.

Yours faithfully,

CHAIRMAN.

41

Tuticorin Port Trust,
Tuticorin, dated 9--11--1954.

To

Sri M. N. Mascarenhas,
Trustee, Tuticorin Port.

Sir,

Sub: Port Officer, - Allegations.

Ref: Your letter No. Nil dated 6--11--54.

The allegations made by you against the Port Officer Tuticorin in your letter cited are vague. Unless you give specific instances it may not be possible to make a detailed enquiry. Please therefore furnish me with the details of specific instance referred to by you.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. x x x

Chairmar.

47

Port Office,
Tuticorin, 22--1--1

To

Sri P. Shanmugasundaram Pillai,
Sri M. N. Mascarenhas,
Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustees,
Tuticorin Port.

Gentlemen,

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust Board - Convening of Special meeting - Requisition for.

Ref: Your letters dated 9-12-54 and 13-1-54.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letters cited and state that the subject of T.A. Bills is receiving my personal attention and necessary investigation is in progress. In this connection I invite your co-operation and request you to please furnish me with full details of any specific information regarding irregularities that you may have in your possession so as to enable me to enquire into the matter.

With regard to convening of special meeting under Section 18(i)b of the Tuticorin Port Trust Act 1924 I request you to please furnish me with details of particulars of items that you wish to discuss at the proposed meeting so as to enable me to take further action in the matter. In this connection I would mention that the Port Officer and Secretary Port Trust does not come under the disciplinary control of the Board and in the interests of good administration and discipline it would be desirable that if there are any specific complaints relating to the conduct of the officer concerned, full details thereof may be furnished to me for examination and if necessary communication to the appropriate authority with my remarks for taking suitable action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. x x x

Chairman.

No.

Tuticorin Port Trust,
Tuticorin, dated 26 --1--1954.

To

Sri M. Doraisamy,
Trustee,
Tuticorin Port.

Sir,

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust Board - Notice of Resolution to be moved at January meeting.
Ref: Your letter dated 23--12--1954.

With reference to your letter cited, I have to state that the Port Officer and Secretary, Port Trust is a public servant and it would not be desireable for the Board to consider Resolutions of the nature proposed to be moved or contemplate action until such time the allegations are enquired into by competent authority and the results of such enquiry are known.

In this connection I solicit a reference to my letter dated 22-12-54 (copy enclosed for ready reference) and onceagain invite your co-operation to furnish me with the following information so as to enable me to proceed further in the matter:-

(a) 1. Full details of misappropriation in T.A. Bill in your possession on which your allegations are based.

2. Names of witnesses (if any) that can give evidence to prove the allegations.

3. Any records or documents available in support of the allegations may please be sent to me in original.

(b) 1. Nature of deviation from rules in collecting landing dues on coal of South Indian Railway.

2. Particulars of rules infringed.

3. Whether such infringement has resulted in any loss to the Board and if so, full details thereof may please be furnished.

(c) Any other information that may be useful.

With regard to constitution of a Sub-Committee of five members the views of the Board contained in Resolution No.267 dated 7-9-54 have been duly communicated to Government in reply to their Memorandum No.13556 F/54-4 dated 6-8-54, and necessary action will be taken on receipt of their orders.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. x x x

CHAIRMAN.

(1)

L. DORAISAMY

Trustee, Port Trust,
Tuticorin.

23rd December, 1954.

The Chairman,
Tuticorin Port Trust,
Tuticorin.

Dear Sir,

I desire to move the following resolution in the forthcoming meeting of the Board (First week of January 1955) and request you to include the same in the Agenda positively:-

"That the Board, having taken into consideration the conduct of Sri M.L. Advani, Secretary, as regards his appropriation in T.A.Bills in connection with his Cochin visit on 19-10-1954 and deviation of rules in collecting landing dues on coal of South Indian Railway, views that it is not advisable to continue him in this office any longer: that the Government of Madras shall be requested by telegram to transfer him immediately from this Port: that a sub-committee of five members as per Board's Resolution No.267 dated 2-9-1954 shall be constituted for immediate inspection".

Yours faithfully,
Sd. L. Doraisamy.

Copy to :
The Secretary,
Port Trust, Tuticorin.

Sec/ P.W.D

M (W) Tuticorin.
Dated: 22nd December '54.

To The Honourable Minister
for Public Works (Marine), Govt. of Madras.
Madras.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust Board - Reqn to convene Special Meeting.
Ref: Our letters dated 8th and 13th December - copies sent to you.

We have to bring to your kind notice that we met the Chairman of the Tuticorin Port Trust on 8-12-54 and enlightened him about the corruptive nature of the Port Officer by quoting several suspected transactions. As desired by him we gave a requisition to call for a special meeting of the Board to discuss all matters relating to his conduct. Specific instance of his misappropriation in T.A.Bill was furnished to him on 9-12-54.

On the 14th December we approached the Chairman and he promised to enquire into the T.A.Bill affair and place his report before the Special Meeting to be convened on 21-12-54. To the requests made in person, on the 20th and 21st, he said that he has fixed 24th December for the Meeting and he made us understand this is a definite arrangement and no more postponement.

In spite of all these, we are surprised to receive a letter from the Chairman to-day, still delaying the affair. Copy of the letter is sent herewith for your kind perusal. We agree to the views of the Chairman that the Port Officer and Secretary Port Trust does not come under the disciplinary control of the Board. But this will not limit the powers of the Board to request the Government for an immediate transfer of a corruptive officer and enquire into his conduct. We cannot expect the Office staff to co-operate with the investigating officer keeping Sri. M.L. Advani under the helm of affairs. For example, for the T.A. Bill in question the peon Mr.Paul has already been taught to state in his deposition that this is the usual practice followed by the previous Port Officers also. When Sri. M.L. Advani is there as his boss, we can expect only such statements. That is why we have requested in our telegram of date, copy or which is sent herewith to transfer the Port Officer immediately and proceed with further enquiry and investigation.

The motive of the special meeting of the Board is

Continued.

57

to consider and constitute a sub-committee to inspect account books stores etc. and give its detailed report to the Govt. so that it will be very helpful to the investigating officer, who can straight-away proceed with concrete cases on hand.

Under the circumstances, we request you to kindly instruct the Chairman by telegram to convene the Special meeting and proceed with the matter without any further delay. We trust this matter will receive your immediate attention as works costing few lakhs of rupees are in progress under the supervision or this dishonest corruptive officer.

Yours faithfully,

Trustees, Port Trust
Tuticorin.

1 Secretary,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
Madras.

2. Public Works Minister,
Madras Government,
Madras.

Our request dated eigth December to convene Tuticorin Port Trust Special Meeting and copy sent to you to consider Secretary's conduct delayed by Chairman Stop Secretary preparing false evidences and may even tamper records to nullify our charges Stop Pray immediate transfer of Port Officer and instruct Chairman to convene urgent special meeting

Shanmughasundaram
Duraisami
Mascarenhas
Trustees.

Not to be telegraphed.

No. 6, Beach Road, Tuticorin.

23.12.1954

(True copy)

S. Shanmughasundaram

Port Office,
Tuticorin, 22-12-1954.

To

Sri. P. Shanmugasundaram Pillai,
Sri. M.N. Mascarenhas,
Sri. M. Doraisamy, Trustees, Tuticorin Port.

Gentlemen,

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust Board - Convening of Special meeting - requisition for.

Ref: Your letters dated 8-12-54 and 15-12-54.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letters cited and state that the subject of T.A. bills is receiving my personal attention and necessary investigation is in progress. In this connection I invite your co-operative and request you to please furnish me with full details or any specific information regarding irregularities that you may have in your possession so as to enable me to enquire into the matter.

With regard to convening of special meeting under Section 18(1)b of the Tuticorin Port Trust Act 1924 I request you to please furnish me with details of particulars of items that you wish to discuss at the proposed meeting so as to enbale me to take further action in the matter. In this connection I would mention that the Port Officer and Secretary Port Trust does not come under the disciplinary control of the Board and in the interests of good administration and discipline it would be desirable that if there are any specific complaints relating to the conduct of the officer concerned, full details thereof may be furnished to me for examination and if necessary communication to the appropriate authority with my remarks for taking suitable action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,
Sd.
22-12-54.
CHAIRMAN

(True Copy)

57

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

P.W.D(L-3)

Memo No. 864574/57-A 4/11/55

Sub: Public servants - Sri.M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin - Allegations.

Ref: From the Supdt.of Police,'X'Br. C.I.D.No. 2/PORTS/54 dated 12-11-54.
-do- No.2/Ports/54 dated 20-12-54.

--:--

The Superintendent of Police, 'X'Branch C.I.D. is informed that the Government have called for a report from the Chairman, Tuticorin Port Trust and that no action need be taken at present, on the petitions forwarded with the letters cited.

11.1.55

11/1/55

11/1/55

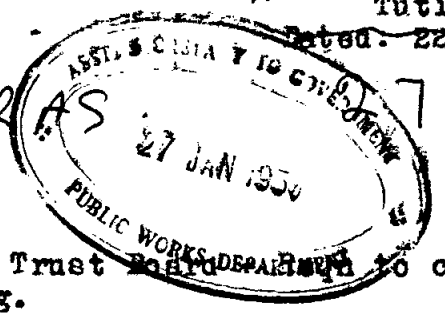
for Sec. to Govt

To:

The Supdt.of Police, 'X'Br. C.I.D.

To Asst. Secretary - Mr. Ramiah
P.W.D. - MADRAS
59
7-1-55

Tuticorin, Dt.
Dated: 22nd December '54.



5943

Dear Sir,

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust Board - Request to convene Special Meeting.
Ref: Our letters dated 8th and 13th December - copies sent to you.

We have to bring to your kind notice that we met the Chairman of the Tuticorin Port Trust on 8-12-54 and enlightened him about the corruptive nature of the Port Officer by quoting several suspected transactions. As desired by him we gave a requisition to call for a special meeting of the Board to discuss all matters relating to his conduct. Specific instance of his misappropriation in T.A.Bill was furnished to him on 9-12-54.

On the 14th December we approached the Chairman and he promised to enquire into the T.A.Bill affair and place his report before the Special Meeting to be convened on 21-12-54. To the requests made in person, on the 20th and 21st, he said that he has fixed 24th December for the Meeting and he made us understand this is a definite arrangement and no more postponement.

In spite of all these, we are surprised to receive a letter from the Chairman to-day, still delaying the affair. Copy of the letter is sent herewith for your kind perusal. We agree to the views of the Chairman that the Port Officer and Secretary Port Trust does not come under the disciplinary control of the Board. But this will not limit the powers of the Board to request the Government for an immediate transfer of a corruptive officer and enquire into his conduct. We cannot expect the Office staff to co-operate with the investigating officer keeping Sri. M.L. Advani under the helm of affairs. For example, for the T.A. Bill in question the peon Mr.Paul has already been taught to state in his deposition that this is the usual practice followed by the previous Port Officers also. When Sri. M.L. Advani is there as his boss, we can expect only such statements. That is why we have requested in our telegram of date, copy of which is sent herewith to transfer the Port Officer immediately and proceed with further enquiry and investigation.

The motive of the special meeting of the Board is

Continued.

to consider and constitute a sub-committee to inspect account books stores etc. and give its detailed report to the Govt. so that it will be very helpful to the investigating officer, who can straight-away proceed with concrete cases on hand.

Under the circumstances, we request you to kindly instruct the Chairman by telegram to convene the Special meeting and proceed with the matter without any further delay. We trust this matter will receive your immediate attention as works costing few lakhs of rupees are in progress under the supervision of this dishonest corruptive officer.

Yours faithfully,

Trustees, Port Trust,
Tuticorin.

The Chairman's fiscal report may be awaited till 10.2.55

29.1.55

29/1/55

63

1 Secretary,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
Madras.

2. Public Works Minister,
Madras Government,
Madras.

Our request dated eigth December to convene Tuticorin Port Trust Special Meeting and copy sent to you to consider Secretary's conduct delayed by Chairman Stop Secretary preparing false evidences and may even temper records to nullify our charges Stop Pray immediate transfer of Port Officer and instruct Chairman to convene urgent special meeting

Shanmughasundaram
Duraisami
Mascarenhas
Trustees.

Not to be telegraphed.
No. 6, Beach Road, Tuticorin.

23.12.1954

65

Extract from the letter from Sri K.T. Kosalram, 118, Perumalpuram, Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli District, dated 27-1-1955 to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort St. George, Madras.9.

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xx xx xx

xx xx xx

When I am at Tuticorin today I learnt that some persons of this place who have vested interests have approached for transferring the local Port Officer. I have apprised about this matter to the Minister over the phone to-day. Please do your best not to disturb the present Port Officer from here.

xx P.W.D(L3) xx xx

(TRUE EXTRACT)

P.K. Mahadevan
Superintendent.

To L

MS FEB 55 3557

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

13332

830

B. Class / Prefix } Code No.

Recd. at H. M. Sent at M.

From To 8 FEB 1955

By By

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 1 FEB 1955

MADRAS 18

Office of Origin — Service Instructions — Words

TO

O O TUTICORIN B 18 39 SHREI CHANDY ASSISTANT

SECRETARY MARINE PUBLIC WORKS FORT SAINT GEORGE MADRAS =

= PORT OFFICER CORRUPTION CASE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCES HANDED

OVER TO CHAIRMAN PLEASE CALL FOR RELATIVE FILE AND TAKE

IMMEIATE ACTION SITUATION BECOMING WORSE =

= MASCRENHAS DORAISAMI PORT TRUSTEES =

N.B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, should be written after, but separated from the text.

MGIFPAh.—702—8-8-53—1,30,000 Bks.

69

CONFIDENTIAL
VERY URGENT.

P.W.D(L-3)

Memo No. 86457/54-5 dt 21/3/55

Sub: Tuticorin Port Trust - Allegations against Sri.M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin.

Ref: From the C.T.P.T. No.C 11/54(C) dated 26-12-54.

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p39-40 c

p39 c

The attention of the C.T.P.T. is invited to para 1 of his letter cited and he is requested to state at what stage the matter stands, at present and when his report to the Govt. may be expected.

To: The C.T.P.T.

21.2.55 21/2/55

Note:

Please see the telegram at p. 67 c.f. The C.T.P.T. may be remind for the final report promised at 'A' on p. 39 c.f. The draft above is for approval.

21.2.55 21/2/55

L3

14307 71

M. Doraisamy

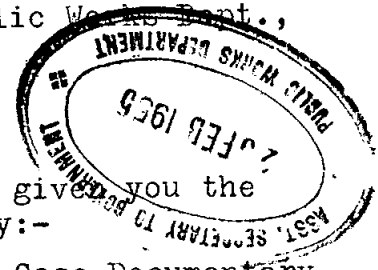
Municipal Councillor.

Trustee, Tuticorin Port Trust.

TUTICORIN.

19th February, 1955.

Shri. Chandy,
Asst. Secretary, Marine Public Works Dept.,
Madras.



Dear Sir,

I confirm to have given you the following telegram yesterday:-

567 Cent

" Port Officer Corruption Case Documentary evidences handed over to Chairman Please call for relative file and take immediate action Situation becoming worse"

Trust you would have received my above telegram. It was sent by Mr. Nobili Mascarenhas and myself. The original documentary evidences have been handed over to the Chairman, Port Trust. So far no action seems to have been taken. As suhh the Port Officer is carrying on his activities high-handedly and the situation is becoming from bad to worse. He is creating confusion among the employees and trouble within the labour section. If his activities were allowed to continue it is certain there will be a strike and the whole Port work may be paralysed. In the circumstances we request that you will kindly call for the papers and take suitable action in the matter immediately.

Hope this will receive your immediate attention,

Yours sincerely,

M. Doraisamy.

Submitted for personal discussion as action is called for at present. Chairman reminded on 21.2.55.

23.2.55

PH 23/2/55

Ec 23/2/55

M. Doraisamy

Municipal Councillor.
Trustee, Port
Tuticorin.

TUTICORIN.

18th February 1955.

To

The Raja Sahib of Hemmad,
Hon'ble Minister for Public Works,
Government of Madras,
MADRAS.

Sery., P.W.D

14990

Honoured and Respected Sir,

Re:-Our Complaint regarding the corruptive and dishonest activities of Mr. M.L. Advani, Secretary, Port Trust, Tuticorin

---

Your Honour may remember that just after the Avadi Congress Session, I met you at the Secretariat and appraised you of the dishonest activities of Mr. M.L. Advani, Secretary Port Trust, Tuticorin.

As requested by you we have submitted the original documentary evidences to the Revenue Divisional Officer and Chairman, Port Trust, Tuticorin. It seems no action has been taken so far. I am sure you will take necessary steps as promised.

I discussed the matter with Mr. S.Ponnuswamy Nadar also. He is convinced about the corruptive nature of the Port Officer. He says that as long as this matter is not due to some political faction, it is right necessary steps should be taken to put an end to such kind of undesirable activities of the Port Officer. There is agitation in the public and Labour Section. Still then he is carrying on his activities with the help of a few well-to-do merchants. In the circumstances I request that you will please call for the papers and take necessary action so that things may not take an unpleasant turn.

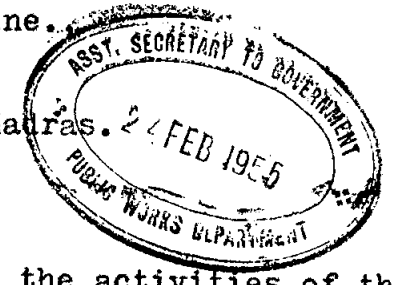
Yours sincerely,

✓ V7 75

14948

Tuticorin,
Dated: 22nd Feb. 1955.

The Secretary,
Public Works Department - Marine.
Govt. of Madras,
Fort St. George, Madras.



Dear Sir,

Re: our Complaints on the activities of the Port Officer Sri. M.L. Advani.

With further to our letters on the above cited subject we are sending herewith a copy of the memorandum submitted to the Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri. K. Kamaraj by the undersigned during his visit to this place. We trust that necessary action will be taken immediately.

Yours faithfully,

Trustee, Tuticorin Port Trust.

77

MEMORANDUM PRESENTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED TRUSTEES OF THE PORT OF TUTICORIN TO

SRI. K. KAMARAJ.,

HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER OF MADRAS

ON THE OCCASION OF HIS VISIT TO TUTICORIN

ON

21 - 2 - 1955.

ooooOoooo

HONOURED SIR,

We beg to bring to your kind notice the corruptive and dishonest actions of the present Port Officer, Mr. M.L. Advani, for your immediate attention and necessary action in the matter.

In the month of October 1954, the Port Officer went to Cochin for the inspection of the "Tug" under construction and he did not take any peon with him. But at the time of drawing T.A. amount, he has passed a bill in the name of a peon Mr. M. Paul, as if he has taken that peon with him, but the amount so claimed was not paid to that peon at all. Documentary evidence, to prove that the peon was at Tuticorin during the period underquestion, was handed over to the Chairman, Tuticorin Port Trust on 9-2-1955.

From the information given by the Chairman, the Port Officer had left Cochin on 21-10-54 afternoon. This information might have been taken from the T.A. Bill submitted by the Port Officer. If this is correct, he must have arrived at Madura only by 22nd October. But we have produced evidence to the Chairman to prove that he was present at the Madura Rotary Club on 21st October itself. We understand that he stayed at Madura on 21-10-54 for his private work but he has drawn allowance for that day also. This is another pucca evidence to prove the conduct of the Port Officer.

South Wharf: Department estimate for the construction of the wharf, excluding the cost of the materials, came to less than Rs.1,00,000/- whereas the work was entruste d with one Mr. Narayana Rao for Rs.1,52,000/-. Government sanction was secured for entrusting the work with the Contractor on the plea that it was not possible for the Department to purchase the Piling Plant and other special appliances required for the work. You will be surprised to note that the Contractor Mr. Narayana Rao has completed the work without the Piling Plant (Power Hammer) as specified in the Contract. All theworks

were

were done by the local work shops, as Sub-Contractors and the Contractor was only a supervisor. He has not even brought ~~them~~ with him any special plant for the work.

As such the work could have been done by the Department itself, thereby saving for the Port Trust more than Rs.50,000/-.

We have already requested the Secretary Public Works Department, to depute the Chief Engineer to survey thewharf, before the account with the Contractor is finally settled. In our opinion the work has not been done as per the Contract, and the piles have not been driven to the maximum depth possible in the absence of the Power Hammer.

There is a wide rumour among the public that the Port Officer has been bribed to an extent more than Rs.50,000/- by the Contracetors, Messrs. Narayana Rao and Brunton Engineering Works alone for the construction work of South Wharf and Eisel Tug "Mannar". He has been regularly receiving Mamools from Boat Owners, Steamer Agents, Workshops, Contractors Etc.

Taking all these into account, we infer, he might have earned more than One Lakh of Rupees, during his short service at this Port. Such facts cannot be brought to limelight, unless the matter is throughly investigated throgugh the Police X Branch. We have already taken up the matter with the Public Works Department but no concrete action has yet been taken.

Under the circumstances, we request you to kindly transfer the Port Officer immediately, as his presence will be a hindrance for the investigation work, and arrange for a thorough investigation into the case through the Police X Branch. If the allegations against him are not proved we are prpared to accept any penalty, you may impose upon us. We pray for your immediate action in the matter, as we fear many of the records reflecting his conduct will be tampered by him, if the matter is delayed.

Yours faithfully,

M. Sadasivam

TRUSTEES, TUTICORIN PORT TURST.

Tuticorin.
Date: 21st Feb. '55.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

To:

The C.T.P.T. (with a copy of pp. 75-79 c.f.)

P.W.D(L-3)

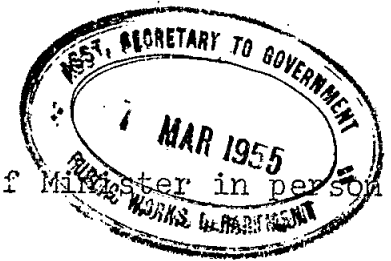
Memo No. 86457/54-6 dt 3-3-55

Sub: Public servants - Tuticorin Port Trust - Allegations against Sri.M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin.

Ref: From the C.T.P.T.No. C.11/54(C) dated 26-12-54.

Govt. Memo No. 86457 L/54-5 dated 21-2-55.

A copy of letter dated 22-2-55 from Sri.Mascarenhas, Trustee, Tuticorin Port Trust, together with a copyof the memorandum referred to therein is forwarded to the C.T.P.T. for enquiry and report.



L3

Presented to the Chief Minister in person on tour.

P.S. to C.M.

V

2/ 19010 83

P.W.

MEMORANDUM PRESENTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED TRUSTEES OF THE PORT OF TUTICORIN
TO
SRI. K! KAMARAJ,
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER OF MADRAS
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS VISIT TO TUTICORIN
ON
21 - 2 - 1955.

ooooOoooo

HONOURED SIR,

We beg to bring to your kind notice the corruptive and dishonest actions of the present Port Officer Mr. M.L. Advani, for your immediate attention and necessary action in the matter.

In the month of October 1954, the Port Officer went to Cochin for the inspection of the "Tug" under construction and he did not take any peon with him. But at the time of drawing T.A. amount, he has passed a bill in the name of a peon Mr. M. Paul, as if he has taken that peon with him, but the amount so claimed was not paid to that peon at all. Documentary evidence, to prove that the peon was at Tuticorin during the period under question, was handed over to the Chairman, Tuticorin Port Trust on 9-2-1955.

From the information given by the Chairman, the Port Officer had left Cochin on 21-10-54 afternoon. This information might have been taken from the T.A. Bill submitted by the Port Officer. If this is correct, he must have arrived at Madura only by 22nd October. But we have produced evidence to the Chairman to prove that he was present at the Madura Rotary Club on 21st October itself. We understand that he stayed at Madura on 21-10-54 for his private work but he has drawn allowance for that day also. This is another pucca evidence to prove the conduct of the Port Officer.

South Wharf: Department estimate for the construction of the Wharf, excluding the cost of the materials, came to less than Rs.1,00,000/- whereas the work was entrusted with one Mr. Narayana Rao for Rs.1,52,000/-. Government sanction was secured for entrusting the work with the Contractor on the plea that it was not possible for the Department to purchase the Piling Plant and other special appliances required for the work. You will be surprised to note that the Contractor Mr. Narayana Rao has completed the work without the Piling Plant (Power Hammer) as specified in the contract. All the works

were

were done by the local work shops, as sub-contractors, and the contractor was only a supervisor. He has not even brought with him any special plant for the work.

As such the work could have been done by the Department itself, thereby saving for the Port Trust more than Rs.50,000/-.

We have already requested the Secretary Public Works Department, to depute the Chief Engineer to survey the Wharf, - before the account with the Contractor is finally settled. In our opinion the work has not been done as per the contract, and the piles have not been driven to the maximum depth possible in the absence of the Power Hammer.

There is a wide rumour among the public that the Port Officer has been bribed to an extent more than Rs.50,000/- by the Contractors, Messrs. Narayana Rao and Brunton Engineering Works alone for the construction work of South Wharf and Disel Tug"Mannar". He has been regularly receiving Mamools from Boat owners, Steamer Agents, Workshops, Contractors Etc.

Taking all these into account, we infer, he might have earned more than One Lakh of Rupees, during his short service at this port. Such facts cannot be brought to limelight, unless the matter is throughly investigated through the Police X Branch. We have already taken up the matter with the Public Works Department but no concrete action has yet been taken.

Under the circumstances, we request you to kindly transfer the Port Officer immediately, as his presence will be a hindrance for the investigation work, and arrange for a through investigation into the case through the Police X Branch. If the allegations against him are not proved we are prepared to accept any penalty, you may impose on us. We pray for your immediate action in the matter, as we fear many of the records reflecting his conduct will be tampered by him, if the matter is delayed.

Yours faithfully,

TRUSTEES, TUTICORIN PORT TRUST.

Tuticorin.
Date: 21st Feb. '55.

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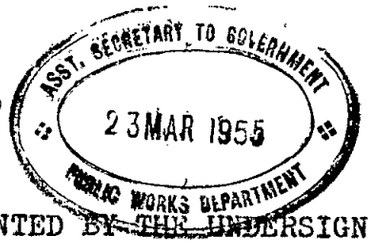
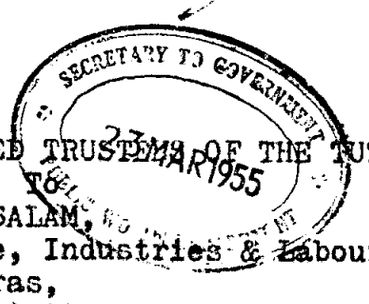




MEMORANDUM PRESENTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED TRUSTEES OF THE TUTICORIN PORT TRUST TO

Sri M. BAKTHAVATHSALAM,
Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Industries & Labour,
Government of Madras,
on the occasion of his visit to Tuticorin
on 19-3-1955.

ooooo0ooooo

Honoured Sir,

We beg to place before you the following few lines about the unfair interference of the present Port Officer, Sri M.L. Adwani, in the affairs of the Port Labour Unions and corruptive dealings for your immediate attention and necessary action in the matters.

The employees of the Tuticorin Port Trust organised a Trade Union for the betterment of their class and arranged to affiliate the same with I!N!T!U.C. The Port Officer induced the clerical section to form a seperate Union. As such there are two Unions, one for the clerical section and the other for others. The undersigned M.N.Mascarenhas is the Secretary of the Union for the non-clerical section and who is also attached to I.N.T.U.C. The Port Officer, using his powers, has forced about 44 members of this Union to resign and has recommended to the Port Trust Board not to recognise the Union. The Piermaster specifically told all of them that if they do not tender their resignations the Port Officer will 'serious notice of this.' These facts will be brought to light if an investigation is made through proper authorities.

Regarding his corruptive actions we have already reported a concrete case to the Chairman and the matter is pending with the Government for a long time. In the month of October, the Port Officer went to Cochin for the inspection of the Tug under construction and he did not take any peon with him. But at the time of drawing T.A. amount, he has passed a bill in the name of a peon Mr. M.Paul, as if he has taken that peon with him, but the amount so claimed was not paid to the peon at all. Documentary evidence, to prove that the peon under question was at Tuticorin during the period of his Cochin trip, was handed over to the Port Trust Chairman on 9-2-1955. From the information given by the Chairman, the Port Officer had left Cochin on 21-10-1954 afternoon. This information might have been taken from the T.A.Bill submitted by the Port Officer. If this is correct, he must have arrived at Madura only by 22nd October. But we have produced evidence to the Chairman to prove that he was present at the Madura Rotary Club on 21st October itself. We understand that he stayed at Madura on 21-10-54 for his private work, but he has drawn allowance for that day also. This is another pucca evidence to prove the conduct of the Port Officer.

Recently a new Wharf has been constructed at a cost of Rs.1,52,000/- excluding the cost of the material by one Contractor Sri Narayana Rao, whereas the department estimated the cost to less than Rs.1,00,000/-. Government sanction was secured on the plea that it was not possible for the Department to purchase the Piling Plant and other special appliances required for the work. You will be surprised to note that the Contractor Sri Narayana Rao has completed the work without the Piling Plant (Power Hammer) as specified in contract. All the works were done by local workshops as sub contractors and the Contractor was only as a supervisor. The department itself, the such the work could have been done for Rs.50,000/-. This is one of saving for the Port Trust more than

suspective corruptive transactions the fact of which cannot be brought to light, uless the matter is immediately investigated through the Police.

89

We have already requested the Secretary, Public Works Department, to depute the Chief Engineer to survey the Wharf, before the account with the Contractor is finally settled. In our opinion the work has not been done as per the Contract. The matter has been taken to the notice of the Chief Minister and the Minister for Public Works. But no action has been taken.

In the interest of the public we are willing to cooperate with the authorities, who are deputed to investigate unto his conduct and enlighten them with many such suspective transactions. Before the investigation is commenced, he should be transferred from this Port, as his presence will be a hindrance for the investigation work.

We are submitting this Memorandum to you as you have been the Minister for the Public Works Department for a long period and you had the opportunity of inspecting this Port on several occasions. We sincerely trust the matter will receive your proper attention and action through the concerned authorities.

We request you to safeguard the interests of the employees, whose lives are lingering at the hands of this merciless, corruptive and dishonest Port Officer. Out of sheer fear some of the employees are forced to do things against their conscience and if these transactions are brought for enquiry the Port Officer will wash off his hands and the poor employee has to bear all the consequences. Till now he has dismissed about 13 employees and his actions have been ratified by the Port Trust Board, which is the final appealing authority. Majority of the Members, Steamer Agents and Boat Owners, cannot express their views against the action of the Port Officer, as they have to depend upon the Port Officer for their personal transactions in the Port. Under the circumstances we pray for your immediate action in the matter

Yours faithfully,

M. Dorairamy

TRUSTEES, TUTICORIN PORT TRUST.

Tuticorin,
19th March 1955.

COPY forwarded to the Secretary Public Works Department Government of Madras (Marine) for information.

M. Dorairamy

Trusteee, Tutjcorin Port Trust.

91

dr 30869 IV 55.

28-3-55.

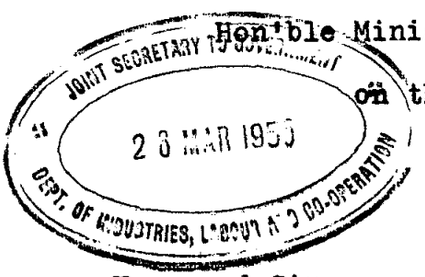
MEMORANDUM PRESENTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED TRUSTEES OF THE TUTICORIN PORT TRUST To

Sri M. BAKTHAVATHSALAM,

Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Industries & Labour,

Government of Madras,

on the occasion of his visit to Tuticorin on 19-3-1955.



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Honoured Sir,

We beg to place before you the following few lines about the unfair interference of the present Port Officer, Sri M.L. Adwani, in the affairs of the Port Labour Unions and corruptive - dealings for your immediate attention and necessary action in the matters.

The employees of the Tuticorin Port Trust organised a Trade Union for the betterment of their class and arranged to affiliate the same with I!N!T!U.C. The Port Officer induced the clerical section to form a seperate Union. As such there are two Unions, one for the clerical section and the other for others. The undersigned M.N.Mascarenhas is the Secretary of the Union for the non-clerical section and who is also attached to I.N.T.U.C. The Port Officer, using his powers, has forced about 44 members of this Union to resign and has recommended to the Port Trust Board not to recognise the Union. The Piermaster specifically told all of them that if they do not tender their resignations the Port Officer will take serious notice of this. These facts will be brought to light if an investigation is made through proper authorities.

Regarding his corruptive actions we have already reported a concrete case to the Chairman and the matter is pending with the Government for a long time. In the month of October, the Port Officer went to Cochin for the inspection of the Tug under construction and he did not take any peon with him. But at the time of drawing T.A. amount, he has passed a bill in the name of a peon Mr. M.Paul, as if he has taken that peon with him, but the amount so claimed was not paid to the peon at all. Documentary evidence, to prove that the peon under question was at Tuticorin during the period of his Cochin trip, was handed over to the Port Trust Chairman on 9-2-1955. From the information given by the Chairman, the Port Officer had left Cochin on 21-10-1954 afternoon. This portion might have been taken from the T.A.Bill submitted by only by Officer. If this is correct, he must have arrived at Madura to prove 22nd October. But we have produced evidence to the Chamber itself. that he was present at the Madura Rotary Club on 21st. This is private We understand that he stayed at Madura on 21-10-54 and is another work, but he has drawn allowance for that day also. pucca evidence to prove the conduct of the Port Officer.

Recently a new Wharf has been constructed at a cost of Rs.1,52,000/- excluding the cost of the materials by one Contractor Sri Narayana Rao, whereas the department estimated on the plea that it came to less than Rs.1,00,000/-. Government sanction was obtained for purchasing the Piling Plant and other special appliances required, as it was not possible for the Department to do the work. You will be surprised to note that the Contractor Narayana Rao has completed the work without the Piling Plant (except hammer) as specified in the contract. All the works were done in the local workshops as sub-contracting only as a supervisor. As such the work could have been done by the department itself, thereby contractors and the Contractor was paid Rs.50,000/-. This is one of the such the work could have been saved for the Port Trust monies the fact of which cannot be brought to light, unless the matter is investigated through the Police suspective corruptive transactions

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26064

We have already requested the Secretary, Public Works Department, to depute the Chief Engineer to survey the Wharf, before the account with the Contractor is finally settled. In our opinion the work has not been done as per the Contract. The matter has been taken to the notice of the Chief Minister and the Minister for Public Works. But no action has been taken.

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
30MAR 19.5
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT

In the interest of the public we are willing to cooperate with the authorities, who are deputed to investigate unto his conduct and enlighten them with many such suspective transactions. Before the investigation is commenced, he should be transferred from this Port, as his presence will be a hindrance for the investigation work.

We are submitting this Memorandum to you as you have been the Minister for the Public Works Department for a long period and you had the opportunity of inspecting this Port on several occasions. We sincerely trust the matter will receive your proper attention and action through the concerned authorities.

We request you to safeguard the interests of the employees, whose lives are lingering at the hands of this merciless, corruptive and dishonest Port Officer. Out of sheer fear some of the employees are forced to do things against their conscience and if these transactions are brought for enquiry the Port Officer will wash off his hands and the poor employee has to bear all the consequences. Till now he has dismissed about 13 employees and his actions have been ratified by the Port Trust Board, which is the final appealing authority. Majority of the Members, Steamer Agents and Boat Owners, cannot express their views against the action of the Port Officer, as they have to depend upon the Port Officer for their personal transactions in the Port. Under the circumstances we pray for your immediate action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Doraisamy

TRUSTEES, TUTICORIN PORT TRUST.

Tuticorin,
19th March 1955.

The W dept.

(1-3 above)
P.W.D.U.O.

28-3-55.

29/3/55

29/3/55

The U.O.No. 30869/L II/55-1
28-3-55.

1,002—3-4-54.

Received.....195 . Registered.....195

Subject.

Tuticorin Port Trust - Allegations against Sri M. L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin.

Ref: Letters dated 6-11-54, 9-11-54, 9-12-54 & 9-2-55 from Sri M. N. Mascarenhas.
Letter dated 23-12-54 from Sri M. Doraisamy
Letters dated 8-12-54 and 13-12-54 from Sri P. Shanmugasundaram Pillai, Sri M. N. Mascarenhas and Sri M. Doraisamy.

ENCLOSURES
No.
Spare copies

C No. 11/54(C) Tuticorin, dated 25th March, 1955.

From (Name) Sri K. P. Sekhara Menon, B.A.,
Chairman, Port Trust,

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to Government Memorandum No.86457-L/54-5 dated 21-2-55 I have to state that the allegations against the Port Officer, Tuticorin have been duly enquired into and the following remarks are offered for favour of consideration and orders of Government.

1). Drawal of T.A. on account of peon when no peon actually accompanied the officer on his journey to Cochin and back on 19/22-10-54.

In his letters dated 6-11-54, 9-11-54, 9-12-54 and 9-2-55 Sri M. N. Mascarenhas has alleged that the Port Officer left for Cochin on 19-10-54 and returned to Tuticorin on 22-10-54. He did not take a peon with him to Cochin but drew a T.A. Bill on a peon's name and got it signed by a peon and pocketed the amount. In support of his allegation Sri M. N. Mascarenhas has produced a postal acknowledgement for a registered letter signed by the peon concerned on 21-10-54.

(p.t.o)

In his explanation the Port Officer does not deny the fact that he did not take a peon with him on 19-10-54 but states that a private servant accompanied him in lieu of a peon on that date. The T.A. Bill was drawn by peon Paul who on receipt of the amount handed it over to the person who actually accompanied the officer. In this connection it has been explained that it has been customary for the Port Officers at this Port to generally take either a lascar or a private servant when on tour. In cases when peons do not accompany the officers, the peons concerned draw the T.A. in accordance with the Rules and pay the amount direct to the persons who actually accompany the officers. This procedure has been in vogue for over 20 years as is also seen from the deposition of the office assistant who has put in a service of 33 years in the department. The peon who drew the allowance under reference also admits in his deposition that he signed the T.A. bill and the acquittance, received the allowance and paid the same direct to the person who accompanied the Port Officer. In the light of these factors the allegation of Sri V. I. Vascarenhas that the Port Officer pocketed the amount is purely imaginary and presumptuous.

The Port Officer has however admitted the technical irregularity of the procedure. In view of the long standing nature of the procedure adopted having been in vogue for over 20 years as explained without any benefit having accrued to the officers concerned, I consider that no action is necessary in this case. If the Government, however, I recommend that the procedure of taking a lascar or a private servant on tour in lieu of a peon hitherto adopted by the Port Officers at this Port may be condoned and they will be required to strictly follow the rules in future.

2. Attendance of Rotary meeting by the Port Officer on 21-10-54 and claiming of D.A. for the day.

Sri V. V. Vascarenhas in his letter dated 9-12-54 has alleged that the Port Officer was in the Rotary Club at Madurai on 21-10-54 and has claimed batta for that day. He has produced a copy of Rotary bulletin in support of his allegation.

The Port Officer in his explanation states that the date of attendance as shown in the Rotary bulletin is a misprint. On his outward journey on 19-10-54 he arrived at Madurai in the evening and had necessarily to wait there for sometime for the connecting train Coimbatore Express and usefully utilised this period of waiting in attendance of Rotary Club meeting at Madurai for about an hour. On enquiry from the President of the Rotary Club it has been ascertained that Madurai Rotary Club holds its ordinary meetings on Tuesdays and 21-10-54 being Thursday is obviously a misprint. In this connection the Rotary President has also furnished the original advice regarding the attendance of meeting by Sri V. L. Advani at Madurai on 19-10-54 and in his letter dated 16-3-54 has confirmed that the date 21-10-54 as shown in the Rotary Club bulletin is a printer's error. The T.A. Rules do not provide for payment of any batta (D.A.) for periods of such waiting for connecting trains and no such allowance has in fact been claimed or drawn. The allegation is therefore purely imaginary.

(p.t.o)

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In this connection I would solicit a reference to my confidential letter Nos. 8 C 54 and 11 C 54-2 dated 23-10-54 and 6-11-54 respectively.

The allegations have obviously been motivated in consequence of Board's Resolution Nos.312 and 336 dated 4-11-54 and 3-12-54 respectively withdrawing the privilege of permit to enter within Port Trust premises issued to Sri M. N. Mascarenhas in his capacity as Secretary, Boatmen's Union, Tuticorin. The gentleman appears to be under the misconception that the Port Officer is responsible for the decision of the Board and has been carrying on nefarious propaganda against the officer with the help of his collegues presumably to justify himself in the eyes of his followers.

The relative file containing 42 pages is herewith submitted for favour of perusal of Government and return when no longer required.

Yours faithfully,

25/3/55

CHAIRMAN.

L 3

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
4 APR 1955
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

99

4002—3-4-54.

Received.....195

Registered.....195

Subject.

29295 Public Servants - Tuticorin Port Trust - Allegations against Sri M. L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin.

Ref: Government Memorandum No.86457-L/54-5 dated 21--2--1955.

ENCLOSURES
No.
Spare copies

C No. 11/54 (c) *Tuticorin, dated* 6th April, 1955.

From (Name) Sri K. P. Sekhara Menon, B.A.,

Chairman, Port Trust,

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to Government Memorandum cited, I have to state that the allegations contained in the Memorandum have been carefully examined and enquired into and the following remarks are offered for favour of information of Government:

Paras 2 & 3. - My report on the allegations contained in paras 2 and 3 of the Memorandum has already been submitted to Government in my letter No. C/11/54(c) dated 25-3-55.

South Wharf: - The value of contract allotted to Sri K. Narayana Rao was Rs.1,34,000 and not Rs.1,52,000 as stated. It is true that the work was proposed for execution by contract at the time of preparing the estimate and was not undertaken departmentally for want of pile driving and other equipment. The The work was entrusted to Sri K. Narayana Rao on orders passed by the Government in G.O.'s.No.1033 dated 30-3-54 after consultation with the Chief Engineer, Public Works department. Although the

contractor

2-100

contractor did not use power Hammer for pile drivin- the work was executed b using 1½ ton hammer with shear legs and twin power jets working at the foot of the piles throughout the operation and the piles have been driven up to refusal to a depth approximately one foot in hard strata. The Board is satisfied with the work and a proved the procedure of driving piles in Resolution No.314 dated 4-11-54 (copy enclosed). Both the present petitioners were present at the Board's meeting and were party to the resolution and their objection after the wharf has been taken over by the department and paid for is unjustified.

The statements that all the works were done by local workshops as Sub contractors and the Contractor was only a supervisor and the work could have been done departmentally at a saving of more than Rs.50,000 are based on ignorance and lack of understandin- of the work. In this connection a reference is solicited to remarks of the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (General) in his letter No.1438 Wks/54-1 dated 11-3-54 communicated with Government Memorandu- No. 12374 F/54-2 dated 14-3-54. As stated therein the scope of work is far different from any other routine type of works whose value can be assessed with any reasonable degree of accuracy from readily available data. The estimate for work as made out contains a number of items rates for which are not supported by any data but have been stated to be reasonable. In certain items there is a wide disparity between the estimated amount and amounts quoted by different parties and on the whole the tender amount is widely off the estimate and even the variations between individual tenderers were very pronounced. The construction involved not only special type of equipment but also called for skill, experience, and resourcefulness in understanding a work of this nature. Experienced skilled workers for this type of work are not available locally and the contractor had necessarily to bring these specialised workers from outside on high rates of wages. Local labour including some mechanics who operate their own petty workshops was recruited by the contractor and most of the work was executed at site under the guidance of the specialised workers who marked and checked each item under the personal supervision of the contractor who was always present at the site and was all along answerable to the department during execution of the work. There were no sub-contractor but it is understood that some of the gangs employed were paid at piece work rates instead of daily rates and this procedure appears to be misconstrued by the petitioners as sub contracts which is incorrect.

In respect of some of the work which required workshop facilities and could not be executed at site the contractor in the absence of any workshop owned by him locally had to utilise the services of some of the workshops at Tuticorin and Virudhunagar.

The department has neither the specialised skilled and experienced workers nor any workshop at its disposal and even if the work was to be carried out departmentally in view of the circumstances explained above it would not have been possible to execute same at a lesser cost.

The Petitioner.

101 — 3

The petitioner Sri M. N. Mascarenhas and his collegue Sri P. Shanmugasundaram Pillai also raised similar objections at the Board's meeting on 3--2--55 at the time of consideration of the revised estimate for Rs.1,94,000 for the work. The Board after prolonged discussion and very deep consideration of the objections of the dissenting members came to the conclusion that the work had been completed satisfactorily and there is no justification whatsoever to request the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department to inspect the work. In this connection the Board also had the benefit of advice of Mr. Kruse, General Manager India Cements Ltd., an expert construction Engineer and a Master of Science and Engineering from Copenhagen University who is also a member of the Board representing the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce and was present at the meeting. After careful analysis of the objections of the dissenting Trustees, Mr. Kruse opined that they were not justified. He considered that the work had been executed in the proper manner and was satisfactory in every respect and with the exception of the two dissenting members, the Board fully concurred with his views and approved the revised estimate in its resolution No.54 dated 3-2-55 submitted to Government with this office No. 8(c)5/356 dated. 16--2--55.

F. Secretariat

In this connection I also solicit a reference to Board's Resolution No.313 dated 4--11--54 communicated to Government with my letter No.11 C 54-2 dated 6--11--54 and my letter No.8 C 55 dated 28-10-54.

F. Secretariat (complaint against Mascarenhas)

N.A. letter

Tug Mannar: Orders for acceptance of tenders for purchase of new diesel teakwood Tug were issued in G.O.Ms.No.3901 dated 26-9-53 and the vessel is being constructed at Cochin under the direct supervision of the Engineer & Ship Surveyor of the Mercantile Marine Department of the Government of India. The contract was allotted after calling for competitive tenders to the lowest tenderer. As per terms of the contract payments on the work can be made only on production of a certificate from the Mercantile Marine Officer for the work done and therefore it is not understood how or why the builders should bribe the Port Officer as alleged.

X

The allegations that the Port Officer has been bribed to an extent of more than 50,000/- by the contractors Messrs. Narayana Rao and Bruntons Engineering works and the inference of the petitioners that he might have earned more than one lakh of rupees during his short service at the Port are fantastic and are not based on reason or facts.

Since the passing of Resolutions No.312 and 336 dated 4--11--54 and 3-12-54 respectively by the Board withdrawing the previlege of permanent permit to enter the Port Trust premises issued to him in his capacity as Secretary, Boatmens' Union Sri M. N. Mascarenhas has been losing control over labour. In consequence of his conduct leading to Baatmen's strike on 6-12-54 it is understood that at a recent general body meeting of the Boatmen's Union he has been forced to resign from the Office of the Hon. Secretary of the Union.

Sri M. N. Mascarenhas

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102

Sri L. N. Mascarenhas and his two collegues Sri V. Doraisamy and Sri P. Shanmugasundaram Pillai have been carrying on nefarious propaganda against the Port Officer and trying to interfere with the day to day administration and smooth working of the Port but have not so far succeeded in having their way. Their conduct towards the Port Officer since 4--11--1954 the date of Board's resolution has been one of open hostility and I am satisfied that the petition against the Port Officer is motivated by misconceptions, personal prejudice and malice and is only intended to intimidate administration and can therefore only be treated as such.

Yours faithfully,

CHAIRMAN.

Pwd(Ls)

The receipt of the enclosed file which has been sent to Pub(Ser) & Fin Deptt. may be awaited.

Ltr 20.4.55, if necessary.

13.4.55

13/4/55

13/4/55

103

Extract of Resolution No.314 of the monthly ordinary meeting No.11 of the Tuticorin Port Trust Board held on Thursday the 4th November 1955.

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314. Tuticorin Port Trust - Construction of a steel sheet pile wharf in front of "C" Shed - Driving of steel sheet piles - Secretary's notes thereon.

Secretary's note approved.

Copy of Secretary's note.

Tuticorin Port Trust - Construction of a steel sheet pile wharf in front of "C" Shed - Driving of steel sheet piles.

Before driving the steel sheet piles a line of penetration tests were conducted by the Contractor with jet along the proposed line of wharf and it was found that the granite stones of the revetment had fallen down and were compactly embedded in the Sea bed to varying depths upto about 10.00 ft. So the driving of the steel sheet piles with power hammer as per item 3 of the schedule was not practicable for the purpose as the constant stroke of the power hammer would shear the piles when they rest on the stones while using the power hammer.

The contractor has therefore with the help of powerful jets under high pressure and divers first cleared the stones along the line of the wharf and then driven the piles up to refusal to a depth approximately one foot in hard strata with the help of high pressure jets and an one and half ton hammer using shear legs. By this procedure the bending and shearing of piles has been completely avoided and this part of the work has been executed satisfactorily.

For Board's approval in November meeting.

40869

1,002—3-4-54

Confidential.

Received ..... 195 . *Registered* 195

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 1 MAY 1955 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Subject.

Public Servants - Tuticorin Port Trust - Allegations against Sri M. L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin.

Ref: Correspondence resting with my C. No.11/54(c) dated 6--4--55.

ENCLOSURES
No.
Spare copies

No. C. No. 11/54(c) *Tuticorin, dated* 16th May, 1955.

From (Name) Sri K. P. Sekhara Menon, B.A.,

Chairman, Port Trust,

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works (Marine) Department,
Madras.

Sir,

I herewith enclose copies of correspondence between Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustee, Tuticorin Port and the Port Officer & Secretary, Port Trust together with a copy of Board's Resolution No.138 dated 5-5-1955 for favour of information of Government.

Yours faithfully,

CHAIRMAN.

The letter from the C.T.P.T above the enclosures on pp 3-7 infra may be perused. The main file on the subject was sent in on to enable its receipt may be awaited.

As the Port Trust lot is nearer to the coolies quarters I fear there is every possibility for the coolies to pilfer out coal.

Hence in the interest of both the Port Trust and Importers, kindly instruct the concerned contractors to use firewood in future. Kindly give your personal and immediate attention over the matter.

Copy of letter No.6/435/2-3-55 from the Secretary, Port Trust, Tuticorin, to Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustee, Tuticorin Port.

Your letter dated 18--2--55 and 1--3--1955.

I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your two letters cited above and I have to inform you that your letter dated 18-2-1955 has been forwarded to the contractors concerned for their remarks.

As regards the Port Trust coal, I can assure you that the Board's property is well secured.

Copy of letter dated 4th March, 1955 from Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustee Tuticorin Port, to the Secretary, Port Trust, Tuticorin.

Ref: Your letter No.6/425 dated 2-3-55 - Pilferage of coal from the foreshore.

I specifically requested you in my letter of the 18th February to take up the matter with the Importers of coal, but I am surprised to note that you have forwarded my letter to the contractors for remarks. If at all any concrete action is desired to be taken; you can instruct the contractors to put an end to this immediately. They are bound to obey your orders.

As a Trustee, I am enlightening you with all these matters in the interest of the public and the Board, who are having large stocks of coal. You have to keep such information as confidential and take necessary action. I never expected such action from an Executive Officer of your position.

Copy of letter dated 31st March, 1955 from Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustee, Tuticorin Port, to the Secretary, Port Trust, Tuticorin.

Ref: My letters dated 1-3-55 and 4-3-1955 - Pilferage of coal from the foreshore.

Will you please kindly place the above matter at the Board's meeting to be held on 7--4--1955 for necessary action to safeguard the interests of the Imports of Coal.

Copy of D.O. letter No.10(d)/942 dated 19--4--1955 from the Secretary, Port Trust, Tuticorin, to Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustee.

#b 100

Copy of D.O.Letter No.10(d)/942 dated 19-4-1955 from the Secretary, Port Trust, Tuticorin, to Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustee, Tuticorin Port.

Dear Sri Doraisamy,

The M.T."Mannar" was hired by you for a trip to Pearl Banks this morning in your capacity as joint Secretary, Pearl Thotty proprietors & Merchants Association.

Loose benches were brought to the wharf for seating the visitors in the tug on deck but in view of the weather conditions prevailing and in the interests of safety you were advised to refrain from putting such benches on Board and the reasons for this were explained to you in detail. Instead of appreciating that the advice was being rendered in the best interests of safety of life and property you created a scene on the wharf in the presence of public and made unwarranted accusations that the Port Officer was taking wanton action against you.

Such conduct particularly on the part of a responsible trustee is most unbecoming and was obviously intended in an attempt at coersing a public servant in the discharge of his legitimate duties according to his best judgement and I take a very grave view of your behaviour.

As it happens I understand that the tug did experience heavy weather on her way back and I am sure you must be convinced of the wisdom of my advice and trust that there will be no repetition of such irresponsible conduct in future.

Copy of letter dated 20th April, 1955 from Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustee, Tuticorin Port Trust, to the Port Officer and Secretary Port Trust, Tuticorin.

I am in receipt of your letter No.10(d)/942 of the 19th instant and am surprised to note the contents therein. I am really wondering what has necessitated the letter at all unless you wanted an occasion to abuse me.

The Tug was engaged for a pleasure trip and as most of the passengers were prominent merchants and as there was no seating arrangements in the Deck they suggested putting a few benches there. I felt it would be all right and arranged accordingly. You directed the benches to be taken away. I had to tell those merchants why they were being taken away. ~~I had to tell these~~ They again and again wanted me to keep the benches and said the benches had been allowed in the previous trips.

So I had to tell them whatever be the conditions before, Port Officer refused permission to me and I had to remove. This is all what happened and I do not see any offence to you.

So your remarks that I acted unbecoming of a trustee, that I attempted to coerce you and my conduct was irresponsible are baseless, unwarranted and defamatory. The fact that I removed all the benches was a proof positive that there was no coersion.

You have

You have added insult to the injury by sending a copy of the letter to the Sub Collector. I am constrained to conclude that you wanted to insult me anddefame me before the Sub Collector and have therefore chosen an occasion for the same, have made certain baseless accusations and sent a copy of the letter to the Sub Collector also.. I desire to point out that unless you express regret for bringing me to disrepute in the eyes of the Sub Collector without any reason or justification, I will have to take such legal and other remedies.

Copy of D.O.Letter No.10(d)1011 dated 25--4--1955 from the Port Officer & Secretary Port Trust, Tuticorin, to Sri M. Doraisamy, Trustee, Tuticorin Port.

Dear Sri Doraisamy,

With reference to your letter dated 20--4--1955, I have to state that the main point to which I have taken grave exception is your conduct in creating a scene on the wharf in the presence of public and making unwarranted accusations that the Port Officer was taking wanton action against you.

As a trustee you know that the responsibility for safety of life and property at Sea devolves on the Port Officer and his directions in this regard have to be obeyed implicitly. The circumstances under which loose benches (brought to the foreshore without prior consultation with the competent authority) could not be permitted were explained to you in detail and in your duel capacity as a member of the Board (owner) and also as representative of the hirers it was your duty to explain to your friends the wisdom of advice rendered in their best interests and not behave in the manner you did.

Your statement that a copy of the letter was sent to the Sub-Collector is purely imaginary. If however by Sub-Collector you mean the Chairman, Port Trust I am in duty bound to keep him informed of the facts since you happen to be a member trustee. The purpose of my letter under reference is merely to ensure the maintenance of discipline at the Port in future and is not meant to offend you and as such I see no justification for regret. If any apology is necessary it should, I consider, rightly come from you for your conduct in making unwarranted accusations against the Port Officer.

113

(Confidential)

P.W.D.(L3)

Tuticorin Port Trust - Sri M.L. Advani, Secy. T.P.T. - Allegations regarding Claim of false Travelling Allowance - orders passed.

Ref: From Sri M.N. Mascarenhas, Letter Dt.6-11-1954.
Memo.No.86457 L/54-1 dt. 12-11-54.
-do- /54-2 dt. 21-12-54.
From C.T.P.T. No.11/54(c) dt. 26-12-1954.
Memo.No.86457 L/54-6 PW dt. 3-3-55.
From C.T.P.T. No.11/54(c) dt. 25-3-55
-do- 6-4-55
-do- 16-5-55

G.O.Ms.No. 2178 dt. 2.6.55

Recorded.

2. The Chairman, Tuticorin Port Trust is requested to issue suitable instructions to the Port Officer and other Officers of the Tuticorin Port Trust to stop forthwith the irregular practice of taking ~~personal~~ private servants or a lascar on tour in lieu of a peon, hitherto adopted by the Port Officer.

To the C.T.P.T.
(spare copies--2)

P.W.D(I-3)

Sub: TUTICORIN PORT TRUST- Sri. M.L. Advani, Secretary, Tutocorin Port Trust = Allegations regarding claiming of false travelling allowance.

p1 c/f
p3 c/f
p5 c/f
p7 c/f
p13 c/f
p15 c/f
pp17-18 c/f
p19 c/f
p23 c/f
pp27-29 c/f

Ref: From Sri M.N.Mascarenhas letter d/ 6-11-54.
Memo No.86457 I/54-1 dated 12-11-54.
From Sri M.N.Mascarenhas letter d/9-11-54.
From 'X'Br. No.2/Ports/54 dated 12-11-54.
From Mascarenhas and others letter d/8-12-54.
From Boatmens'Union telegram d/ 10=12=54.
From Sri.Mascarenhas letter d/9-12-54.
-do- and others letter dated 13-12-54.
From 'X'Br.No.2/Ports/54 dated 20-12-54.
From Mascarenhas and others telegram d/23-12-54

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Please see the letter at pp. 1,5,13, 17-18, 19 c.f. and the telegram at pp.27-29 c.f.

p1 c/f

2. In November 1954, Sri.M.N.Mascarenhas one of the Trustees of the Tuticorin Port Trust, has stated that Sri.M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin, and Secretary to the Port Trust has misappropriated Government money and has maintained false accounts by claiming travelling allowance for his visits to Mandapam and Cochin. He has ~~also~~ furnished a ~~certain~~ specific instances where false travelling allowance was alleged to have been claimed by the Secretary to the Trust in respect of his T.A for his trip to Cochin in October 1954. On 8th December 1954, Sri.P.Shanmugam, Sri.M.N.Mascarenhas and Sri.M. Doraiswamy, Trustees of the Tuticorin Port Trust have requested the Chairman of the Trust to convene an urgent meeting of the Board to discuss matters relating to the conduct of the Secretary, Port Trust. Attention is also invited to the telegram from the Boatsmens'Union at p. 15 c.f. The above three Trustees have now sent a telegram saying that the Chairman of the Trust is delaying taking action against the Secretary and that the Secretary of the Trust is preparing false evidence and that he may even tamper with the records to nullify the charges. They have, therefore, requested that the Port Officer, Tuticorin may be transferred immediately

pp5, 17-18 d19 c/f

p13 c/f

pp27-29 c/f

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and that the Chairman of the Tuticorin Port Trust may be asked to convene an urgent special meeting of the Board.

Attention is invited to the memo at pp. 3 and 21 c.f. The Chairman's reply is awaited.

3. Recently certain allegations against Sri.M.L.Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin were enquired into by the Chairman, Tuticorin Port Trust and it was reported that none of the allegations was substantiated. One of the persons who made a complaint in that connection was Sri Manickam, who is also Secy. of the S. Labourers Union, Tuticorin who seems to pursue his complaints with a spirit of vindictiveness.

4. In view, however, of the repeated representations against the Port Officer, Tuticorin, it is for consideration whether the S.P.O. may be asked to enquire into the matter personally and submit his report expeditiously. It does not seem necessary and to examine the desirability of transferring Sri. Advani from Tuticorin, at the present stage.

For orders. as X above.

23.12.54

23/12/54

28/12/54

Sub. Circular

It seems is an official channel of the Port Trust & in the case of such a Trust we should not ask the S.P.O. to intervene. The Trust is an autonomous body.

2. We may await the Chairman's reply to our letter at P 21/c.

3. We may inform the X Branch that the Govt have called for a report.

A

from the Chairman of the Trust & that no action need be taken at present on the petitions.

3. Sri Mascarenhas it was alleged in another connection has been pressing up Kalavu Timber at the Port and the Secy and Port Officer has been countering his action.

4. Pub. S.C. Shunmugasundaram

20/12/54

Pub(S.C)

P.W.D. to 86457/454-3

23-12-54.

the note of P.W. Deptt from p1 ante may be perused. This Deptt may agree with 'A' on p.2 ante, and return the file to P.W.Deptt

27/12/54

27.12.54

C|428

US

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27/12/54

Public (S.C) Deptt

U.O. Note No. C|428|54

23-12-54

PWD

P.W.D(L-3)

X The case relates to certain allegations of corruption against Sri.M.L. Advani, Port-Officer, Tuticorin and Secretary and Traffic Manager, Tuticorin Port Trust.

2. In November 1954, Sri.M.N.Mascarenhas one of the trustees of the Tuticorin Port Trust stated that Sri.M.L. Advani misappropriated Government money and maintained false accounts by claiming travelling allowance for his visits

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...o Mandapam and Cochin. He also furnished a specific instance where false travelling allowance was alleged to have been claimed by the Secretary of the Trust, in respect of his Travelling Allowance for his trip to Cochin in October 1954. On 8th December 1954, three of the Trustees of the Port Trust requested the Chairman of the Trust to convene an urgent meeting of the Board to discuss matters relating to the conduct of the Secretary, Port Trust. They have also sent a telegram saying that the Chairman of the Trust is delaying taking action against the Secretary and that the latter is preparing false evidence and that he may even tamper with the records to nullify the charges. They have requested that the Port Officer, Tuticorin may be transferred immediately and that the Chairman of the Trust may be asked to convene an urgent special meeting of the Board.

A report has been called for from the Chairman and his final report is awaited. He has, however, stated that he has called for full particulars regarding the allegations against the Secretary of the Trust and that, on receipt of the same, the enquiry will be completed and necessary report submitted to the Government. He has also reported that the telegram from the Boatmen's Union is mischeivous and has obviously been sent to create confusion.

This Dept. has held the view that, as the Port Trust is an autonomous body and there is an official Chairman of the Trust, it may not be proper to ask the S.P.O. to intervene and that the Chairman's

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7.1.55

final report may be awaited. It is also proposed to inform the Superintendent of Police, 'X'Branch, with reference to his letters at pp. 7 and 23 c.f. that the Government have called for a report from the Chairman of the Trust and that no action need be taken at present on the petitions.

Public(S.C)Dept. agree. The file may be circulated to M(W) and C.M. for approval of the proposal

Please see from X on p 3 ante. The suggestion at 2 above is for approval - vide also pp 3-5 ante & the PF below

M(W)

C.M.

A draft order is submitted

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
11 JAN 1955
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

6

P.W.D(L-3)

Please see the extract of the letter from Sri.K.T.Kosalram at p. 65 c.f. He requests that Sri.M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin, should not be distmnbed. It may be pointed out that some of the Trustees of the Tuticorin Port Trust Board have requestthat the Port Officer, Tuticorin should be immediately transferred and that the Chairman of the Trust should be asked to convene an urgent special meeting of the Board to discuss matters relating to the conduct of the Secretary, Port Trust. It has been decided that as the Port Trust is an autonomous body and there is an official Chairman of the Trust it may not be proper to ask the S.P.O. to intervene and that the Chairman's final report in the matter should be awaited.

In the circumstances, no action is called for on the letter at p. 65 c.f. The Chairman's final report may be awaited till 10-2-55 as already ordered.

p 65 c.f

pp 27-29 c.f

p 53 c.f

pp 3-4 c.f

p 5 c.f

5.2.55

7.2.55

P.W.D(L-3)

From the C.T.P.T.No. 11/54(C) dated 25-3-55.

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In November 1954, Sri.M.N.Mascarenhas one of the Trustees of the Tuticorin Port Trust ~~has~~ reported that Sri.M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin and Secretary to the Port Trust has misappropriated Government money and has maintaine false accounts by claiming travelling allowance for his visits to Mandapam and Cochin. He also furnished a specific instance where false T.A. was alleged to have been claimed by the Secretary to the Trust in respect of his T.A. for his trip to Cochin in October 1954. The C.T.P.T. was asked to enquire into the allegations and submit a report to the Government.

2. The following are the two specific allegations contained in the petition:-

(1) that the Port Officer had claimed T.A. on account of peon, when no peon actually accompanied the officer, on his journey to Cochin and back on 19/22-10-54.

(2) that the Port Officer attended the Rotary meeting on 21-10-54 and claimed Daily Allowance for the day.

3. ALLEGATION (1):

In support of this allegation, Sri. M.N.Mascarenhas has produced a postal acknowledgement for a registered letter singed by the peon concerned on 21-10-54, who was alleged to have travelled with the Port Officer to Cochin. In his explanation, the Port Officer admitted that he did not take a peon with him on 19-10-54 but that a private servant accompanied him in lieu of a peon on that day and that the T.A. Bill was drawn by peon Paul who on receipt of the

amount handed it over to the private servant who actually accompanied the officer. It is also stated that it has been customary for the Port Officer, Tuticorin to generally take either a lascar or a private servant when on tour and in cases where peons do not accompany with the officer, the peons concerned draw the T.A. in accordance with the rules and pay the amount direct to the persons who actually accompany the officer. In the present case the peon concerned has deposed that he ~~singed~~ signed the T.A. Bill and the acquittance, received the T.A. amount and paid the same to the ~~xxxx~~ person who accompanied the Port Officer.

p/21-22/3

The C.T.P.T., therefore, considers that the allegation that the Port Officer pocketted the amount is purely imaginery and presumptuous. In view of the long standing nature of the procedure adopted having been in vogue for over 20 years, without any benefit having accrued to the officers concerned, the C.T.P.T. considers that no action is necessary in this case. He recommends that the procedure of taking a lascar or a private servant on tour in lieu of a peon hitherto adopted by the Port Officer at the Tuticorin Port may be condoned and that the Port Officer may be asked to follow the rules in future.

A p96

X p96

ALLEGATION (2): Sri.Mascarenhas has produced a copy of the Rotary bulletin support of the allegation that Sri.M.L.Advani ~~xxx~~ attended the Rotary meeting on 21-10-54. Sri. Advani has explained that the date of attendance as shown in the Rotary bulletin is a misprint and that, on his outward journey on 19-10-54, he arrived at Madurai in the evening and had necessarily to wait there for sometime for the connecting train and that he usefully utilised the period of waiting in attendance

p33/B

p38/B

P.W.D(L-3)

The case relates to certain allegations against Sri.M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin. In November 1954, Sri.M.N.Mascarenhas one of the Trustees of the Tuticorin Port Trust reported that Sri.M.L. Advani, Port Officer, Tuticorin and Secretary to the Port Trust misappropriated Government money and has maintained false accounts by claiming travelling allowance for his visits to Mandapam and Cochin. He also furnished a specific instance where false travelling allowance was alleged to have been claimed by the Secretary to the Trust in respect of the T.A. for his trip to Cochin in October 1954. The C.T.P.T. was asked to enquire into the allegations and submit a report to the Government:

2. The following are the two specific allegations, in the petition:-

(1) that the Port Officer had claimed travelling allowance on account of peon when no peon actually accompanied the officer on his journey to Cochin and back on 19/22-10-54.

(2) that the Port Officer attended the Rotary meeting on.21-10-54 and claimed Daily allowance for the day.

3. Allegation (1): In his explanation, the Port Officer admitted that he did not take a peon with him on 19-10-54 but that a private servant accompanied him in lieu of a peon, on that day and that the travelling allowance bill was drawn by peon Paul, who, on receipt of the amount, handed it over to the private servant, who actually accompanied the officer. It is also reported that it has become customary for the Port Officer, Tuticorin to generally take either a lascar or a

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private servant, when on tour and in cases where peons do not accompany with the officer, the peons concerned draw the travelling allowance, in accordance with the rules and pay the amount direct to the persons who actually accompany the officer. The peon has also deposed that he signed the T.A. Bill and the acquittance received the T.A. amount and paid the same to the person, who accompanied the Port Officer. The C.T.P.T. considers that the allegation that the Port Officer pocketted the amount is purely imaginary and presumptuous. In view of the long standing nature of the procedure adopted having been in vogue for over 20 years, without any benefit having accrued to the officers concerned, the C.T.P.T. considers that no action is necessary in this case. He has recommended that the procedure of taking a lascar or a private servant on tour in lieu of a peon higherto adopted by the Port Officer at the Tuticorin Port may be condoned and that the Port Officer may be asked to follow the rules, in future.

pp21-22 (5)

Ap96cf

X p96f

Allegation (2): Sri. Mascarenhas has produced a copy of the Rotary bulletin in support of the allegation that Sri. Advani attended the Rotary meeting on 21-10-54. Sri. Advani has explained that the date of attendance as shown in the Rotary bulletin is a misprint and that on his outward journey on 19-10-54 he arrived at Madurai in the evening and had necessarily to wait there for some time for the connecting train and that he usefully utilised the period of waiting in attendance of Rotary Club meeting at Madurai for about an hour. The President of the Rotary Club has reported that the Madurai Rotary Club holds its ordinary meetings on Tuesdays and that 21-10-54 being a Thursday is obviously a misprint. Sri. Advani, it is reported, had not claimed D.A. for the period of waiting for

p33 (B)

p38 (B)

p39 (B)

the connecting train. The C.T.P.T., therefore, considers that this allegation is purely imaginary.

4. This Dept. has held the view, that, though the action of the Port Officer in having allowed the peon, who had not actually travelled with him to draw travelling allowance for journeys performed by his private servant is really objectionable, no further action seems necessary especially in view of the fact that no 'mala fide' intention on the part of the Port Officer has been established. It is, therefore, proposed to drop further action in the matter and to inform the C.T.P.T. to issue suitable instructions to the Port Officer and other officers of the Tuticorin Port Trust to stop the irregular practice forthwith.

5. Pub(Ser) and Finance Deptts. agree.

6. Attention is also invited to the Memorandum presented to the Chief Minister by some of the Trustees of the Tuticorin Port Trust at pp. 83-85 cf and the C.T.P.T's letter at pp. 99-102 c.f. The C.T.P.T. has reported that the allegations contained in the Memorandum are fantastic and not based on facts. It is also reported that Sri.M.N. Mascarenhas and his two collegues Sri.M.Doraiswamy and Sri.P. Shanmugasundaram Pillai have been carrying on nefarious propaganda against the Port Officer and trying to interfere with the day to day administration and smooth working of the Port but have not so far succeeded in having their way. The C.T.P.T. has also stated that the conduct of the above persons towards the Port Officer after 4-11-54 has been one of open hostility and that the petition against the Port Officer is motivated by misconceptions, personal prejudice and malice and is only intended to intimidate administration.

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864574/54

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7. The file may be circulated to M(W) and C.M. for approval of the proposal in paragraph 4 above.

PF'y Advance placed below.

The note from p 11 onwards explains the case.

The proposals in para 4 & on p 13 ante are for approval - vide also (J), (N), and (T).

Please see the orders in circulation above and the letter from the C.T.P.T. on pp 105-111 c.f. may be perused. A draft order is accordingly submitted for approval. (No action it seems called for on pp 105-111 C/F)

Thro 'P' Sec.